

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 29, as follows:

Within the user computer 10 an agent control program 40 is provided. The agent control program 40 is in communication, via the telecommunications network 20, with a co-ordinating agent program 42 resident on a first target computer 38\_30a. Also resident on the first target computer 38\_30a are a plurality of task agent programs 44a-44d, each of which is arranged to communicate with the co-ordinating agent program 42.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 5, as follows:

The co-ordinating agent program 42 interacts with the operating system 321 of the remote computer 38\_30a on which it is resident. It communicates with the task agent programs 44a-44d via local message passing, and with the control agent control program 40 via messages transmitted through the telecommunications network 20. The Scout agent 46 communicates with the co-ordinating agent 42 and with the agent control program 40 by sending messages through the network 20.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 12, as follows:

Thus, to perform some repetitive task requiring a high degree of computing, the task agents 44a-44d each perform a portion of the computing task, in parallel. A co-ordinating agent 42 controls the amount of computing resource used by the task agents on the remote computer 30a. It also communicates the results calculated by the task agents to the agent control program 40. Finally, it decides whether, and when, to move from the

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remote computer 38-30a to the further remote computer 30b to re-commence execution

there.